



Your tenant has done a lead dust test

What does this mean?

Your tenant participated in the lead dust screening program offered by the Maine CDC. This program helps parents, homeowners and landlords find out if there is lead dust in their homes and buildings.

The test identified lead dust in the areas that were tested. Exposure to lead dust is the most common cause of lead poisoning in Maine children. There are steps you can take to reduce lead dust.

What do I need to do?

- You may want to have a professional test done to confirm the lead dust test results. To learn how to do this, go to our web site listed below and read “Testing my Home for Lead”: tipsheet #4 to learn ways to test for lead.
- Now that your building has been tested for lead, you must tell prospective tenants the building has been tested and let them see the test results.
- You may also share with those prospective tenants what you have done to clean the lead dust from the property.

Clean up the lead dust

- Be sure you remove existing lead dust in common areas such as stairwells, porches and hallways. To learn how to do this, visit our web site listed below to read tipsheet #2 - “Cleaning up Lead Dust.” It describes how to wet clean to remove lead dust. Once you or your property manager has cleaned in this way, continue to clean floors, windowsills, door trim and baseboards with a damp rag or mop about once a week.

Maintenance at unit turnover

- To learn how to thoroughly clean and do essential maintenance during unit turnover, visit our web site listed below to read “Get the Lead Out: Take Advantage of Unit Turnover”. It shows ways to reduce risks from deteriorated paint.

Learn how to work safely with lead

- Get training for yourself or hire someone trained in lead safe work methods. Find information for trainings on our web site at www.maine.gov/dep/rwm/trainingcal.shtml.
- For additional sources of information on how to work safely with lead, see our web site listed below.

Make short term repairs

- Do not dry sand or dry scrape paint. It can make a lot of lead dust.
- When the property is occupied, limit the amount of paint that is disturbed. Focus on areas where the paint is cracked, chipped or peeling.
- By law, you must notify tenants 30 days before you do any work.
- Have tenants remove their belongings from the work area. Cover these items with a plastic sheet before work begins.
- Repair damaged areas that are less than two square feet by covering with paint or contact paper. This is a short term solution until you can learn to fix it properly and take the “Renovation, Repair and Painting” class.

Protect your family.

- Visit our web site: www.maine.gov/healthyhomes
- Call for advice: 287-7666 • TTY: 800-492-0859



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